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(54) Abstract Title

**Aggregation of log data from different operating systems into a central data log**

(57) Apparatus and methods for maintaining a centralized data log [105] for a distributed computer system [100] utilizing more than one type of operating system [125,135,165]. The present patent document discloses techniques for transferring and storing log data [300] across different platforms and the aggregation of that log data [300] into one location wherein the processes detecting the log data [300] are executed by operating systems [125,135,165] which are not limited to being of the same type. Thus, this aggregation mechanism is designed to allow multiple processes [130,160] operating on diverse kinds of systems [140,170] to log to a central system [115], which itself may be on any kind of system. An administrator can monitor from a single source the operation of a distributed computer system [100], as for example a distributed management tool, whose components may be distributed across a network [190] and operating on multiple, geographically dispersed computers [140,170].

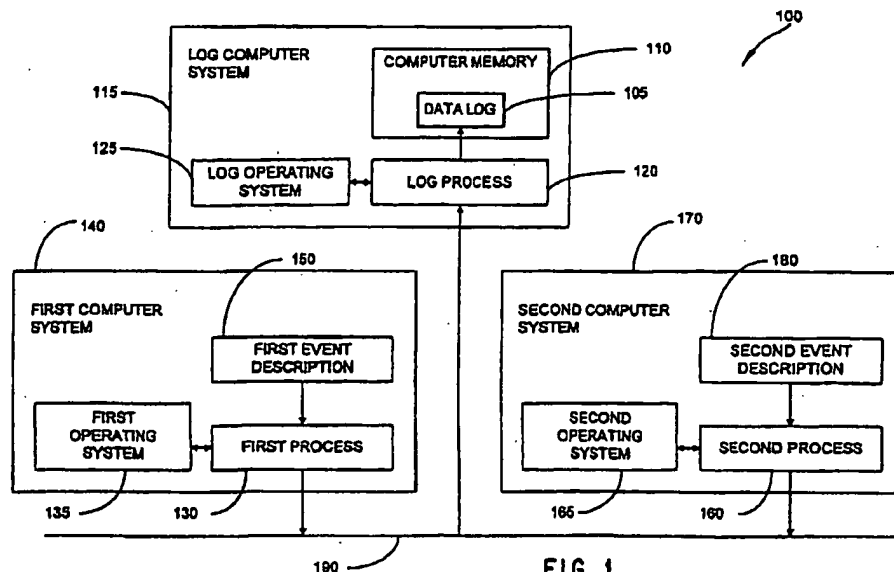


FIG. 1

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